

Counterpoise

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLX

April 2009

Number 4



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting: April 9, 2009 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022
The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:
WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021
The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address
WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net



Vuong KB6RCT & Pat WA6MHZ

Next Meeting

Andre Hansen, K6AH, who's heading up the Digital side of Communications for (SURF) Pacific Crest Trail Run.

Steve Early, AD6VI, who is the ARRL Section Manager for the San Diego Section will talk about San Diego Section.

2009 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	W6GRK	Gary Kushe	562-5391

2009 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Social Chair	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

2009 Standing Committees

Bylaws	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Health & Welfare	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Historian	KI6QDB	Paul Weekly	
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W2IRI	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Welcome	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	

Staff and Writers

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KO4QT	Steve	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
AE6CQ	Michael	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
WA6L	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

From The President

Paul KC6QLS



At the April meeting we will vote on the Bylaws again. After this, I believe the Club's Bylaws are set for a long time. We will be bringing them up to date from when the founding member's first wrote them in the late 60's, back when snail mail was king and no Internet was around.

We are a very Radio Active Club! Yes, there are things to do. Field Day is just around the corner, and we need help setting it up and taking it down. Next is the Del Mar Fair! Wooden CW Keys are all ready for the kids to build them. Last year as I looked around at the booth, everyone was having FUN. Larry, AE6AV got the kids talking, then the kids were talking to other kids on the air, and this was priceless. We need volunteers. Please sign up and come out and join the fun.

Then, we have the Annual Club Picnic and Fire Station 6 Open House too. To top it off, Steve, KO4QT and I are working on "The Extreme East County QSO Party" EECQSOP for short. We will be inviting our neighbors from El Centro, Yuma AZ and all points in between to attend and become Radio Active with us. Date and time will be announced as soon as it is set.

This is a good time to be an Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Member. Your Membership helps strengthen our club and is the glue that holds the club together. It is so nice to see new faces in the crowd at the meetings. If you need help or have a question about Amateur Radio, the club has many well seasoned members that are a walking "Goggle Search Engine". You can ask any club member your question, and if that person can't answer it, they will direct you to someone who can. It's great to stand back and watch as the knowledge starts to flow.

73

Paul Rios, KC6QLS
President

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting
12 March 2009



The General Membership meeting of the ARCEC was called to order by the Club President Paul, KC6QLS at 1900hrs. After the pledge of allegiance visitors were welcomed.

SECRETARY: The minutes as published in the *Counterpoise* compiled by Mike, N6OPH were approved as published.

TREASURER Gary, W6GRK read the Treasurer's Report. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

AUDITOR'S REPORT was given by Mike, N6OPH. It generally described the condition of the club's treasury for the calendar year of 2008. The report was accepted with the thanks of the chair. **WAMO** certificates were presented by Paul, KC6QLS. Al Gentz was presented a plaque for 800 WAMO contacts.

PRESENTATION by WA6MHZ, Pat Bunsold was a display and description of the Crest Radio Museum. After the presentation, there was a 20 minute break.

After the break, the business portion of the meeting commenced.

PRESIDENT Paul, KC6QLS reported that the Constitution and Bylaws is now posted on the club's website. Paul also gave his report on the Yuma Hamfest 2009 that was held last month. He stated that the event was lightly attended but enthusiastic about the 2010 convention. He also reported on the library display at the Mission Valley Library. Pictures of the display are on the SANDARC web site.

VICE PRESIDENT Steve, KO4QT gave his report that there is a club box at HRO and that it was empty. Steve has put together a flyer for display in that box. On 9 May there is a 50 mile run at Mt. Laguna. On the 6th and 7th of June there is a 100 mile run. Operators are needed for communications for these two events. On the weekend of 14-15 March there is a Baker to Las Vegas run. This is primarily a law enforcement event and operators are needed for this event. A one day Technician Class will be held at the Joan Croc Center on 21 March. VE Examinations will be held at the conclusion of this class. This class starts at 0800. Field Day is 26-27-28 June.

A deposit of \$100 will be required to hold the Shrine Camp for 2010. It was moved and seconded that the deposit be authorized and paid to the camp to reserve it for 2010. The motion was carried. Kitchen help is also needed. A PSK-31 station will be attempted this year during Field Day. There are still some dorms available as well as RV sites. Help is needed for loading and set up for Field Day on Friday, 26 June. Field Day T-Shirt Logo Contest submission is required at the April meeting. The T-Shirts will need to be paid at the May meeting. The T-Shirts will be distributed at the Field Day Site. SANDARC will be administering examinations on Saturday for those who would like to upgrade their licenses. The Field Day Food Fund is now at \$396.76. At present time we are a little behind in our fund raising efforts for the Field Day Food Fund. Our goal is at least \$1000.

Steve Early, AD6VI will give a presentation about the ARRL for the April meeting.

NET MANAGER Mike, KG6TDP noted nets are averaging about 18-21 check-ins.

BYLAW CHANGES were presented to the membership as part of the first reading. All of the proposed changes are update language to Article IX on the makeup and function of the various standing committees. These proposed changes will be published in the *Counterpoise* and a vote would be taken during the April meeting.

AFFILIATED CLUBS: Len, K5WFW reported on the February SANDARC meeting. A nominations committee was formed for the nomination of SANDARC officers for the April election. The club station license was renewed. A trustee change will be made. The new trustee will be Ann, KC6TBG. A \$1000 reimbursement check was presented to the DX Club to help defray the costs of an attorney to fight a proposed restrictive antenna ordinance. The City of San Diego has yet to schedule the next meeting on this proposal. Money was advanced to the SANDARC Chairman to purchase airline tickets for his upcoming trip to the NCVEC Conference in July.

MEMBERSHIP count is 195 paid members. There were 63 members attending this evening's meeting and 6 visitors.

EDUCATION: Gordon, AE6QW reported that he has two students enrolled for the General upgrade class. The classes are now being held



Continued Page 8

From The Vice President KO4QT Steve



Wow, that's a bunch of radio gear that Pat, WA6MHZ has in both the East Wing and the West Wing of his museum. And, I for one was amazed by the work (and patience) it takes to restore dials, displays, cabinets, and guts of those old radios. Thanks Pat for giving us a glimpse of what it takes to be the Curator of the Crest Radio Museum.

Have you been working on a "logo" for our Club's 2009 Field Day T-Shirt Contest? If so, it's time to finish it up. The selection of the winning "logo" will be at our Club meeting, Thursday April 12th. Your "logo" submission(s) must be turned in to either me or Paul, KC6QLS by the beginning of the meeting. The winner of the contest will receive a "FREE" Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Field Day 2009 T-Shirt. This year, the Club is NOT buying Field Day T-Shirts to sell to Club Members at the Field Day site. If you would like one or more of this year's ARCEC Field Day T-Shirts, your order must be placed specifying T-Shirt size(s), and paid in full by our May 14th Club meeting. Once again, Club Field Day 2009 T-Shirts will be available ONLY to those who've ordered and paid for them in advance. Field Day T-Shirts will be distributed to their owners at our Field Day site at the Al Bahr Shrine Camp on Friday June 26th. I should have a price for our Field Day T-Shirts at our April meeting.

2009 ARRL Field Day Pins are now available for ordering! Also available are ARRL Field Day Pins for 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006 and 2008. If you're missing a Field Day Pin from a previous year or want an ARRL Field Day 2009 Pin, please let me know by May 1st. The price per Pin will be determined by the number of Pins we're ordering. A single 2009 Pin with shipping and tax will cost around \$12.00, ten Pins will be about \$6.50 each and twenty Pins will be about \$6.00 each. As you can see, the more Pins we (as a group) order, the less each one costs. I'll be able to determine the

WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Axel	KI6RRN	Donut Net

WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights

8:00 p.m. local time 7:45 "Early Checkins"

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken.

Donut Net:

Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Bring your Donuts. GOT MILK?

Wide Open Ham Net:

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Frito's Corn Chip Net:

Thursday, 7:00 p.m. on 28.435 Mhz USB

Nets held on Club's WA6BGS Repeaters System

RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.

WAMO means Worked All Members Only.

The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

Calendar of Events April 2009

April. 4:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
April. 4:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
April. 7:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
April. 9:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
April. 9:	Field Day T-Shirt Logo
April. 18:	Counterpoise Dead Line
April. 18:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm

Upcoming Event Dates

May 2:	One-Day Technician License Class
May 9:	Pacific Crest Trail 50 Mile Run
May 23:	Wildland Fire Safety Training
June 12:	Del Mar Fair Amateur Radio Booth



Continued on Page 14

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OWNER

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LAKESIDE, CA 92040



Tom Mc Duffie KM6K, Manager
5375 Kearny Villa Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: www.wa6bgs.org

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file maybe up to 1.5 mb at times.

Change of Address

Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterposie. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call _____ WAMO# _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address:

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to Membership Chairperson:
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Membership Application

Please print clearly, complete all info and return to Membership Chair with your payment:

Individual Membership \$18.00

Family Membership \$30.00

Name: _____

Class of License: _____

Other Family Members and Calls: _____

Address: _____

Call: _____ WAMO #: _____

Birthday: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Check One: New Member Renewal

Returning Member

*If you are a returning member, you will keep your original WAMO #.

Check One: I want to receive the Counterpoise Newsletter by: Mail Email Website

Check One: I give my permission to publish my info on the Club Roster Yes No

If no, state exactly what information you do not want published: _____

Check One: ARRL Member Yes No

ARES Member Yes No

RACES Member Yes No

Would you like to be in the Counterpoise Spotlight?
 Yes No

Would you like to be a member of The East County Response Team? Yes No

Mail with payment to:
Membership Chair, ARCEC, P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

FUN PAGE

Birthday

April 1	KD6QB	Bill	Callier
April 2	KE6PMS	Louis	Dunn
April 4	KF6NQG	Roy	Stark, Jr.
April 7	KI6KTZ	Jane	Roome
April 10	NY6J	Bob	Helt
April 13	AB6SH	Jack	Hoke
April 15	N6YBK	Galen	Kelm (L)
April 16	N6jTNC	Thomas	Christian
April 16	K6JHD	David	Hendrick
April 18	KI6HSA	Martin	Muschinske
April 18	NO CALL	Gary	Strange
April 20	WA6VEY	Bob	Dalzell
April 21	KI6DQJ	Will	Tisch
April 23	WA6BJM	Fred	Moffett (L)
April 25	KR6BL	Chris	Laporte
April 26	NO CALL	Beth	Lang



Brain Thinkers

5= F. on a H.

5 Fingers on a Hand

52 W. in a Y.

52 Weeks in a Year

187= M. in ARCEC

187 Members in Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

----- This Month -----

1 = T. that O. K.

40 = D. in L.

100 = C. in a D.

Word Search

C	H	A	S	S	I	S	W	K	O	H	J	T	B	K	T
U	A	O	B	M	F	V	L	T	W	R	M	L	G	9	R
R	K	P	E	W	L	W	H	G	O	U	J	V	W	U	A
R	W	B	A	S	E	O	F	T	D	9	F	M	V	1	N
E	J	9	M	C	H	F	C	Q	G	O	S	J	U	G	S
N	M	W	T	J	I	A	V	W	B	G	O	P	F	V	M
T	H	V	M	L	R	T	V	M	9	W	V	W	K	E	I
W	F	R	T	A	T	L	A	T	I	G	I	D	N	T	P
H	O	E	V	F	G	S	M	N	S	S	H	M	O	R	E
S	R	N	H	U	W	G	P	V	C	G	V	P	H	A	T
Q	F	E	T	D	B	9	L	V	G	E	S	M	A	U	W
T	K	Z	U	L	T	J	I	C	O	M	W	P	R	T	O
O	Q	M	S	T	K	S	F	T	K	U	J	H	N	O	P
D	U	C	T	I	N	G	I	N	V	E	R	T	S	R	H
K	P	L	H	F	O	L	E	K	M	H	S	U	S	L	O
L	T	J	E	R	R	O	R	M	O	F	Q	L	S	W	H
E	L	E	C	T	R	O	N	I	C	J	K	F	J	L	T

<input type="checkbox"/> AMPLIFIER	<input type="checkbox"/> ERROR
<input type="checkbox"/> BASE	<input type="checkbox"/> FILTER
<input type="checkbox"/> BEM	<input type="checkbox"/> GENERATOR
<input type="checkbox"/> CAPACITANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> HARNESS
<input type="checkbox"/> CHASSIS	<input type="checkbox"/> ICOM
<input type="checkbox"/> CURRENT	<input type="checkbox"/> INVERTER
<input type="checkbox"/> DB9	<input type="checkbox"/> KENWOOD
<input type="checkbox"/> DIGITAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSMIT
<input type="checkbox"/> DUCTING	<input type="checkbox"/> VARACTOR
<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRONIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ZENER

Last Month's Word Search

I	Q	W	O	K	U	Y	A	E	W	U	K	I	J	E	X
K	N	I	S	T	A	E	H	Q	K	U	E	G	J	V	O
W	U	T	R	K	Q	U	D	X	J	V	D	Z	Q	U	B
X	G	G	E	W	I	H	V	O	I	L	A	Y	W	Q	K
G	O	E	V	R	I	Z	U	I	K	Z	C	W	K	Z	N
T	R	J	K	E	M	O	Q	H	Z	W	E	H	D	E	U
U	T	G	I	G	K	I	D	B	A	N	S	G	J	V	J
Q	W	L	V	U	W	H	T	W	P	O	U	I	C	H	E
P	I	S	P	I	A	Y	R	T	P	K	K	H	I	W	Q
F	E	H	W	A	U	W	G	Q	F	D	V	O	T	G	Q
G	C	I	E	T	O	V	K	H	D	N	W	K	A	U	S
G	V	S	C	Q	U	N	T	E	R	D	I	H	I	W	K
T	K	J	H	R	O	Q	U	K	J	Y	R	D	E	K	A
A	Y	Q	I	J	T	E	E	M	P	A	W	S	H	D	K
L	V	U	P	E	G	H	W	K	I	E	K	P	C	E	L
R	O	G	S	P	E	C	T	R	O	N	I	S	A	Y	S
X	U	S	E	A	Y	O	Q	J	X	G	H	B	Q	L	T

ASK AN ELMER

This month's question is, "Shore Power vs. Battery/Solar Power, what is best?"

Well, this is a good question, and it all boils down to how you're going to operate your station. Are you going to "contest", "chase DX", "rag chew", provide "emergency communications" or maybe a combination of the above?

The first thing you have to consider in setting up your radio shack is the current draw of your equipment. You probably are planning on setting up an HF Rig as well as maybe 6 meters, 2 meters and possibly even 1.25 cm (220MHz) or 70cm (440MHz). Most HF rigs are powered by somewhere between 12v-13.6v "direct current" (DC) and have a maximum power output of 100 watts, which creates a current draw of 8.5 amps. Your 2 meter rig will have power output of 50-75 watts with a current draw of roughly 4-6.25 amps and your 70cm rig will have a power output of 25watts or so with a current draw of about 2 amps (remember the "power" formula you learned at the same time you learned "Ohms Law"?? Power divided by voltage=current). Now, keep in mind these current draws are 12v DC and come from your 12v power supply (which converts 110v AC to 12v DC and must have a current rating that is sufficient to run all of your equipment). You also need to keep in mind the fact that you won't be transmitting on all of your radio's at the same time. When converted to "alternating current" (AC) at 110-117v, your current draw is significantly less; HF@100watts=.9amps, VHF@50-75watts=.5-.7amps and so on. If you're running a 100watt radio with an 800watt amplifier, your current draw will be about 10-12amps depending on how much current your power supply draws.

If you choose to use "shore power" (plugged into the AC wall outlet in your shack), which most of us do, the amount of current you have available to use is limited only by the wiring in your shack and the circuit breaker in the box (and, of course, SDG&E). Most household AC outlets have a

current rating of 15 amps and you probably have a couple of these wall outlets in your shack. You may even have access to a 220v outlet in your shack. If you're planning on running a "full gallon" legal limit 1500 watt amplifier, and you want it to run at its optimum without tripping your circuit breakers, you'll need to run it on 220v AC.

As previously mentioned, running your equipment on 12v DC draws a lot of current from your batteries. If you're going to run your station on "battery/solar power", your panel or panels, and batteries, must have a current rating high enough to keep your radio(s) running after the sun goes down. Additionally, if your station includes a computer for digital operations or logging, you'll have to connect an inverter to your batteries (which converts 12v DC to 110v AC). This is where you will plug in your computer. The likelihood that you'll run an amplifier with this configuration is unlikely; however, with enough batteries, solar panels and a big enough inverter, it is possible to run an amp, but the initial cost would be huge.

The answer to the question, Shore Power vs. Battery/Solar Panel? As you can see, both sources will power your station and you might want to consider using them both. Shore power for day to day operations and battery/solar panels as a backup for when the lights go out...whether it be from someone knocking over a power pole or from a natural or manmade disaster.

Next month's question is, "What do you mean I need to tune my antenna? I bought my antenna at the HAM Radio Store, why does it need to be tuned?"

73

Elmer A. Ham



**The Editor's
Corner
KC6QLS Paul**



Editor's Corner

Not much to report here. Everything is going just fine with the newsletter. Please keep your letters coming in. I like to see your thoughts about the Counterpoise, and it is good to keep a finger on the members' pulse. After all, this is your newsletter.

73 Paul Rios, KC6QLS Editor

Public Relations

The Library Display at the Mission Valley Library Branch was a hit! The display is now being re-worked. Look for it again at the Rancho San Diego Branch. It is a smaller display than the others so we will make a custom fit. If you have not seen the display before, please stop by and see it sometime. It really shows all aspects of Amateur Radio, the hobby we all love. If you know of a library in your area, county, school, or other location, please let me know. Help spread the word about what we do.

Minutes Continued

at the church in the "Chase Lipton House" which is located on the church property on the rear parking lot.

PUBLIC SERVICE: A class will be held 6 May presented by CALFIRE on Wild Land Fire Safety Training. It will be held in La Mesa at the LDS church.

PRIZE TABLE needs support. Floyd, AF6BC described the contents of this evening's table. There being no further business before the General Membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2323hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael P. Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volunteers Needed

**Up Coming Events
Speakers and Program Ideas**

E-Mail

Address for the Counterpose. Please submit all *Counterpose* Mail to:
WA6BGScounterpose@cox.net

Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. Please contact: Floyd Lang AF6BC at 303-6711.

Things to keep in mind

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector
To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>
You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

Quote of the Month

"To conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom."

- Bertrand Russell

JOKE

Got Vista? The hidden Error Messages you do not see if you are lucky.

Backup not found: (A)bort (R)etry (T)hrowup

Backup not found: (A)bort (R)etry (P)anic

Network Error: (A)bort (R)etry (T)ake down entire network?

Computer not found: (A)bandon Computer (B)uy new Computer (R)einstall Windows XP?

Lisie KI6EEK

Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



The Splitdorf R-500

Most of the Museum rigs are from the 50s, some from the 30s, but finding a 1920s radio is a real find. At the Chino Hills Swapmeet, I arrived before dawn and shopped with my flashlight. Each vehicle that arrived was sieged with buyers like Piranhas on a carcass!! I elbowed my way through the anxious buyers with fist loads of cash, and fought to the rail of the Chevy El Camino that just pulled up. Buyers grabbed what they could and threw money at the seller as I watched countless and priceless items go very cheap. Finally, it was my turn to grab something, and I grasped a large long wooden box with old knobs on it. I didn't have any idea what it was, but knew it was old and rare. Opening the lid, I saw 5 sockets with NO tubes, but the seller wanted only \$50 for it. I burned my wallet out of my slacks and handed him the 2 twenty's and a ten; and joyfully carried off the prize. Maybe it was too big and heavy for the other buyers, but I knew this was a receiver of some kind. It was labeled SPLITDORF, a brand I had never heard of before.

Returning to work (I was back by 9AM from near Riverside; that was a quick trip!) the Internet was searched to see what I had landed. The Splitdorf R-500 was a popular receiver in the mid 1920s. It uses five 01A tubes, none that I had. Checking Ebay, I could see that 5 of these would cost me a bundle!!! So the tubes will be acquired as I can. Splitdorf made auto ignition products, but ventured into the radio business. In the late 20s, it was bought out by the Thomas Edison Company, which went out of business in the Great Depression. So the Splitdorf is an incredibly rare radio!

The radio requires 3 battery arrangements to come up with +6V, +22V and +90V. I suppose I will rig up some sort of DC Supply to make these voltages. The 01As draw a lot of current, so the filament supply will have to be hefty. OUCH!!! I just checked Antique Radio Supply and they want \$37-\$57 EACH for those 01As!!!! So, I will have

to find another source. Any readers who might have some they want to part with would sure be appreciated.

The radio looked in excellent shape until I checked the knobs. There was a massive chunk eaten out of one. Not much chance of finding a knob to match this. It is 4 inches in diameter and 180 degrees of it is calibrated with 0-100 markings. Could I repair this?

I got out the trusty JB Weld and started building up the voided area bit by bit. Once dry, I would add some more, filling in pits and adding more epoxy to cover the area the chunk cut out. As enough is added, it will be allowed to fully cure and then be sanded down to be flush with the surrounding bakelite. This will be an incredibly tedious operation and may fail. It is curing as I type. J B Weld is a MUST HAVE for restoration. There is just so many uses for it. The knob will never look completely original, but it will be a lot better than a knob with a chunk out of it. Once formed to the right shape, tiny cuts have to be filed into it to simulate the calibration marks, and the numbers "90" and "100" engraved into it. Then the tick marks and numbers will be filled with white paint (slightly browned to match the old numbers of the other marks). I am hoping for a pretty nice repair. Maybe a Splitdorf knob will come on Ebay someday, but I am not holding my breath. I need to attend some Antique Radio Swapmeets and do some digging. Also need to do that for the Tubes as well, but the next scheduled SCARS Swapmeet I know about is in November!!! Sure would like some progress before then.

But until the missing tubes are acquired, I will just enjoy the charming elegance of one of the oldest and certainly RAREST radios I own. The Splitdorf R-500!

EPILOGUE: I worked all day Sunday and got the repair looking pretty good. JB Weld gets so hard you have to use a metal file to shave it, so the shaping went slow and steady. It still could be better, and someday I should file and sand some more, but it turned out pretty nice.(As seen in Pic 3). It is noticeable that it is a repair, but looks a lot better than a big chunk out of it. Look at the



Continued Page 12

Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul

**"ARRL Taps
Miller High Life Delivery Guy
for 'Big Project' Ad Campaign"**

Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the spring of renewal in Cycle 24 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".

In a press conference announcement at ARRL headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, League spokesperson Terry Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat announced to gathered members of the Amateur Radio media, the ARRL Board has voted to retain advertising agency Crispin Porter & Bogusky, the agency representing Wendell Middlebrooks, the Chicago based actor who has gained national stature as "The Miller High Life Delivery Guy" for a new media campaign involving "The Big Project".

Reached for comment at Crispin, Porter & Bogusky, Darlene Morisco, Sr. Account Manager for the Miller-Coors Collaborative Working Group comments "Middlebrooks has been selected to represent the Amateur Radio hobby in a planned television ad campaign. The campaign, conceived by an ad-hoc committee appointed by the League Board, is aimed squarely at specific "Big Project" school teachers and a Ham population characterized as lacking in enthusiasm for the hobby". The ads are fashioned after the highly successful Miller Beer ad series. In the series, "The Miller High Life Delivery Guy" drives a Miller High Life beer delivery truck up to restaurants or gatherings where Miller High Life beer is served. After determining that the venue or business is overcharging for simple fare, or is more pretentious than the burly "Delivery Guy" deems necessary, he and "associates" pick up the Miller High Life beer, load it into the delivery truck, and drive away.

"Let me ask you something... can anyone here tell me what inning it is?" the "Miller High Life Delivery

*Guy" asks no one in particular at a reception gathering of business types at an office party. In the corner, a baseball game is on a big screen television with the volume turned down. When no one can answer his question, he and his associates quickly determine this group is undeserving of the working class beer known as *Miller High Life*, and immediately swing into action, hustling to pick up the *Miller High Life* and cart it off - all without a search warrant.*

The mastermind behind the new Ham ad series and chairman of the ad-hoc committee is reportedly Jack Squelch WE9JW, retired chairman of the Major Electric Corporation, and the original 'idea man' of "The "Big Project", an ARRL initiative aimed at promoting Amateur Radio to middle school students. The "Big Project" or *Amateur Radio Education and Technology Program* is an educational program designed to enhance student learning through application of mathematical and scientific concepts. The project emphasizes math, science, writing and public speaking as well as other skills including geography and social responsibility. "The Big Project" was originally conceived as a means to energize middle school age students, but recently the League Board had become concerned that the project may fall short of its established goals. Determined to see "The Big Project" succeed, Squelch and the League Board conceived the television ad campaign to put Big Project school teachers and the Amateur Radio community on notice that inaction and apathy are no longer tolerated at "Big Project" schools or within the Ham community.

The campaign required careful planning and execution, given the questionable use of a beer deliveryman in an ad campaign potentially including youth in its target audience. In one of the first spots, Middlebrooks is dressed as the "ARRL Delivery Guy". Middlebrooks rolls up to Stan S. Coutant Middle School in Pasadena, California, in a delivery truck appearing to be a cross between a bread truck and a porcupine. The truck bristles with a variety of Ham antennas and resembles a mobile "Voice of America" station. After first registering as a visitor at the school office, resplendent in his "ARRL Delivery Guy" uniform, Middlebrooks and his small entourage swing into action. Entering the teacher's lounge, he is directed to the Coutant science teacher Les Voltage, who had earlier applied to the League for funding for a school Ham station under the project's "Stations in Schools"

Chicken Noodle Soup Continued

provision. Concerned local Hams contacted the League to report the school station had suffered from lack of use.

Feigning interest in a Junior High science project, the "ARRL Delivery Guy" asks Les to show the ARRL "delivery team" the radio station at Coutant Middle School. Viewing a dusty, disconnected transceiver, the "Delivery Guy" asks Les if he knows "...what sunspot cycle we are in." Les is silent, fidgeting with the desk microphone. The "Delivery Guy" then asks the last time a log entry was made at the school station. Again, Les is unable to answer. Finally, in a distracting strategy, the "Delivery Guy" remarks, "Say, Les, what's that?" pointing to a straight telegraph key sitting on a shelf above the radio. When Les is unable to answer, the "Delivery Guy" blurts out "Bingo", and he and associates swing into action, hefting radios and power supplies into the "ARRL Delivery Truck" parked outside the school – *with permission slip in hand*.

Ham equipment is loaded, doors slide shut, tires squeal, and the "ARRL Delivery Truck" hastily departs the school parking lot and makes a bee-line to neighboring Andrew J. Mitchell Middle School, previously selected by the ARRL for its high level of expressed interest in Ham Radio. An entourage of excited, cheering staff and science teachers meets the ARRL team at the entrance of the school. Just as quickly as the equipment was picked up, the "Delivery Guy" and the ARRL team rolls into the Andrew J. Mitchell science classroom, setting up the station equipment, and later swiftly ascend ladders with masts, ladder line, and antennas. With the flick of a switch, the classroom is alive with signals and interested, happy students.

In subsequent ads, the "ARRL Delivery Guy" is featured rolling up to Field Day events where participants are not taking the spirit of the event seriously. Suddenly appearing among participants at a recent Field Day event, the "Delivery Guy" is heard talking to one Field Day operator on 20 meters while two young Ham Radio operators, or "Hamsters" patiently wait to take a turn. "Say man, how's your rate?" the "Delivery Guy" asks inquiring about the number of contacts one operator has made during a fixed period of time. When the operator raves about all the contacts he's made during the last three hours, the "ARRL Delivery Guy" "lowers the boom" with Ham bystanders looking on. "Three hours on a Field Day transceiver with these kids waiting, y'all must be crazy! You know, these

kids are waiting for you to give 'em a break. What's the matter with you, man? These kids are the future of our hobby." The operator is instantly and thoroughly embarrassed and quickly becomes invisible. The two "Hamsters" are ushered to the operating position and eagerly pick up where the operator leaves off, their young voices and delighted CQs plunging the 20-meter band into joyful chaos with a mob of responding stations. The "Delivery Guy" and the ARRL team beam with delight.

At the press conference, League spokesperson Terry Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat weighs in on the objective of the ad campaign with Wendell Middlebrooks, the "ARRL Delivery Guy" standing beside her. "The hobby is on notice that it's 'no more Mr. Nice Guy' time at ARRL. The League won't tolerate apathy or inaction at "Big Project" Schools, or for that matter, on the bands during ARRL sanctioned contests", states Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyne-Hasselflat. Middlebrooks adds his trademark comment "That's right, Terry. And remember, 'Mess with the League and the League will mess with you.'"

Editor's note: Hams are hereby notified that the League is working to cultivate and nurture the next generation of Amateur Radio operators through the Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program. The program is being implemented in phases. Phase I, the application phase, is up and running. Phase II, curriculum development, is underway and involves a review of existing available materials and development of new curriculum. Phase III, the implementation and evaluation phase, will involve expanding the number of schools and evaluating and updating the curriculum. Individuals may support the work of the Educational Project through donations to "The Big Project" at the ARRL.

Morris AZ6CW



Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello all,

Boy, the time seems to be flying by. Our club is really starting to grow once again, and that is just great. More new and old WAMO's are appearing on our WAMO nets, which make Harold, KB6CKM, a happy camper. Harold better keep looking behind him because Axel, KI6RRN, is going after WAMO's just as hard as Harold. It is great to see all of the seats taken at the past few meetings!

I would like to clarify what may be some confusion regarding the VIP Red Flag Patrol. You do not need to have a "special" ID card to go out on patrol; you will only need to have it if you want to work some special assignments. The only thing you need to do is fill out one form, then you are all set. Speaking of the VIP Red Flag Patrol, Wild Land Fire Safety Training had to be changed from May 16 to May 23rd; also the new place for the training will be at 9621 Ridgehaven Court in San Diego. So far, 24 people have signed up for the training, but that does not include State Animal Rescue or members of R.A.C.E.S. So at this time, we have plenty of room. The new site can hold up to 100 people, so once the limit is reached, or someone drops out, we cannot take any more people. We are in need of people who are retired, or just plain tired, who can go out on patrol during the week. So, if you are available, why not sign up and help keep our backcountry safe. Roxanne has said that we will be used more and more if and when the winds start blowing.

Also, be sure you check the club's calendar for upcoming events such as the May 9th Pacific Crest Trail run, the May 30th East County CERT academy, and the June 6th 100 mile endurance run. Our friends in REACT have a few events coming up: TBA April Ominum Bike Race-Cyclo Vets; June TBA Descanso Endurance Ride; August TBA Midnight Madness Bike Ride. As you can see, there are a lot of chances to get out and do what we do best and that is providing public service communications, which helps prepare you for emergency communications. And for those of you

who just received your license, this is a great way to get over "mic fright" and become more at ease with your equipment in a non pressure environment. For more information on REACT'S events, visit their site at San Diego Southwestern REACT.

Lastly, remember at every club meeting, there is a can going around to collect money for the Field Day "Food Drive." The money collected will determine what kind of food will be served at Field Day.

That is it for this month. As always, say THANK YOU for all our brave men and women serving in our Armed Forces of the United States of America. GODBLESS EVERY ONE OF THEM.

Rich, N6NKJ

CREST Museum

pic and see if you can tell where the repair started and ended. This demonstrates that a broken Bakelite knob CAN be repaired, so don't throw out your broken knobs!!!

—
Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ
Curator Crest Radio Museum



More Photos on page 13

Membership Report

Ann KC6TBG



Welcome New Members

Vicki Lindsey KI6WOE WAMO # 1785
Buck Hourcade WH7IZ WAMO # 1786
Bill Metzger W6RGS WAMO # 1787

Welcome Back Previous Members

Joe Aceveda N6SIX WAMO # 1500

Congratulations to all who have upgraded your license!

If you have upgraded your license within the past year, please contact me at kc6tbg@cox.net or see me at the meeting so that I can update your information on the ARCEC Roster.

All Members are welcome to participate on all ARCEC weekly Nets. The WAMO Net is an opportunity to meet new members, collect WAMO's and practice your communication skills. Please join us. For more information on the dates and times, see page 4 of this Newsletter.

The 2009 ARCEC Roster is for club use only. However, please do not use this club roster to contact club members at the telephone numbers and addresses listed on the roster for the purpose of working a WAMO. The Rules for working WAMO are listed on the website and must be followed in order to receive WAMO Certificates. Also, copies of the WAMO Rules are available at club meetings.

73, Ann, KC6TBG

Individual Dues Membership:

\$18.00 per year (\$1.50 per month):

January	\$ 18.00	July	\$ 9.00
February	\$ 16.50	August	\$ 7.50
March	\$ 15.00	September	\$ 6.00
April	\$ 13.50	October	\$ 4.50
May	\$ 12.00	November	\$ 3.00
June	\$ 10.50	December	\$ 1.50 *

*plus \$18.00 for the following year

Family Dues Membership:

\$30.00 per year (\$2.50 per month):

January	\$ 30.00	July	\$ 15.00
February	\$ 27.50	August	\$ 12.50
March	\$ 25.00	September	\$ 10.00
April	\$ 22.50	October	\$ 7.50
May	\$ 20.00	November	\$ 5.00
June	\$ 17.50	December	\$ 2.50 *

*plus \$30.00 for the following year

Ann, KC6TBG
Membership Chair



 **J. P. TURNER & COMPANY, L.L.C.**

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Santee CA 92071
Office: (619) 561-2839
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From The Vice-President Continued

cost per Pin by May 2nd and then I'll contact all of you who are on the list with pricing information. Your Pin order must be paid in full (cash or check) by our May 14th Club meeting so I can order them in time for Field Day.

As in the past, San Diego Ultra Running Friends (SURF) has requested that local Amateur Radio Operators volunteer to provide communications for two upcoming events...the Pacific Crest Trail Run in the Laguna Mountains on May 9th and the 100 Mile Endurance Run in the Cuyamaca Mountains on the weekend of June 6th and 7th. Also, if you have an RV (and a means to keep your batteries charged), are available from Friday afternoon June 5th, through Sunday afternoon June 7th, and would like to work as Net Control for the 100 Mile Run, your services are badly NEEDED!

The San Diego County Fair (Del Mar Fair) is quickly approaching. Our Club's weekend to man the SANDARC Booth is June 12-14 and volunteers are needed! This is an excellent opportunity to introduce Amateur Radio to the Public. Shifts are only 4 hours...either from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and FREE entry to the Fair is available for you on the day you're scheduled to work. When you're not on shift, you can wander the Fair as you please. We may even have a free ticket available for you to bring a guest...but we won't know for sure until we go to the Fair's orientation in May.

Field Day 2009 will be the weekend of June 26th through the 28th at the Al Bahr Shrine Camp in Mt Laguna which is in the mountains about 50 miles east of El Cajon (as the crow flies). We'd like to know in advance of Field Day if you're going to be there over the weekend so Linda, KI6JUD (our Social Chair), will know how much food to buy, prepare and cook. Also, if you're planning on spending the night(s) Friday or Saturday at the Camp with us, there are still a few bunks in the Dorm available as well as RV and Tent spaces.

Special Field Day Request! During the past three Field Day events (2006-2008), I've operated 75 meters during the "graveyard shift" on Saturday nights. This year, I'd like to pass that torch on to a couple of you who are willing to take on this responsibility. This will allow me to devote all of my time and energy managing our Field Day Operations.

The Program for our April Meeting will be two-fold:

For about the first 10 minutes, Andre Hansen, K6AH, will be talking to us about "digital" communications that will be used this year, for the first time, for "real time" tracking and reporting of runners progress during the SURF Runs. Due to time constraints, and in order to be fair to our featured speaker, if you have any questions of Andre, please write them down and talk to Andre during the break.

Next up will be our featured speaker, Steve Early, AD6VI, who is our ARRL Section Manager for the San Diego Section. Steve is a long standing member of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (WAMO#1116), past President of the Palomar Amateur Radio Club, an ARRL and SANDARC Certified Volunteer Examiner, an Instructor for Amateur Radio Licensing and the list goes on. He'll be giving us some insight into what's new and exciting within the ARRL here locally as well as around the country.

If you'd like to volunteer for any of the activities I've mentioned, give me a call (619)733-2320 or shoot me an email ko4qt@hotmail.com and I'll give you contact information as well as making sure you're added to the list for the event you're interested in. All upcoming events for the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon can also be found on Club website Calendar: www.wa6bgs.org/calendar.html (look for the bright "yellow" highlights on the Calendar).

73's and I'll see you at the meeting,

Steve, KO4QT

Proposed BYLAW Change

Reads Now

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

(a) The following standing committees are hereby established with the Chairperson of each to be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee:

- (1) Education - code and theory classes
- (2) Social - picnic and refreshments
- (3) Membership - sign-in, welcoming and badges
- (4) Technical - Club Engineer
- (5) Affiliated Clubs - SANDARC Representatives
- (6) Public Service - ARES and RACES
- (7) Public Relation - Publicity
- (8) Awards - Ham of the Year
- (9) Finance - Budget and Audit
- (10) Field Day

Proposed Change

Pursuant to Article XII of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, the following Amendment is offered for consideration of the General Membership assembled:

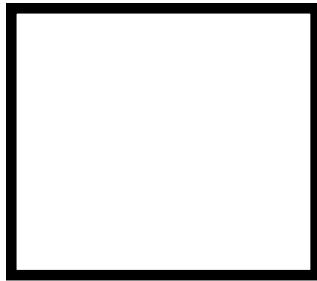
Article IX Committees shall be changed to wit:

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

(a) The following standing committees are hereby established with the Chairperson of each to be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee:

- (1) Education – educational requirements for licensure
- (2) Social - picnic and refreshments
- (3) Membership - sign-in, welcoming and badges
- (4) Technical - Club Engineer
- (5) Affiliated Clubs - SANDARC Representatives
- (6) Public Service – ARES, RACES, CAL Fire, East County EOC and Padre Dam Water District
- (7) Public Relation - Publicity
- (8) Awards - Ham of the Year
- (9) Finance - Budget and Audit
- (10) Field Day
- (11) Elmer

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022

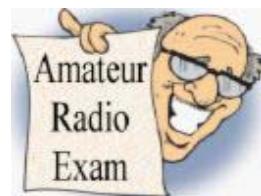


Issue Date 4/2009

For Ham Radio
Classes
General License
Starts
March 10th

Please Contact:
Mike Maston
N6OPH
(619) 296-9067

Please Visit Our Website at
www.WA6BGS.org



VEC Testing Sites

1 st Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 nd Saturday:	Carlsbad 9:30 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 rd Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 th Saturday:	Chula Vista 8:30 am Fire Station #7 1640 Santa Venetia Chula Vista
5 th or last Saturday:	Escondido 9:00 am LDS Church 1917 East Washington St.

To make advance reservations or to find out more info
from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)